Appl. No. 10/535,024 Amendment dated September 8, 2008 Reply to Official Action dated June 12, 2008

Remarks/Arguments:

This application contains claims 1-100, the status of which is as follows:

- (a) Claims 27-30, 34, 36, 66-71, and 75-80 were previously presented.
- (b) Claims 25-26, 31, 33, 72, and 74 have been currently amended.
- (c) Claims 35 and 37-48 are as originally filed.
- (d) Claims 81-100 are new.
- (e) Claims 17-24 and 49-64 were previously canceled without prejudice, and claims 1-16, 32, 65, and 73 have been presently canceled without prejudice. The Applicant reserves the right to prosecute these canceled claims in a continuation application.

No new matter has been added.

Allowable subject matter

The Applicant thanks the Examiner for finding that claims 32-33 and 73-74 recite allowable subject matter. While not necessarily agreeing with the rejections of the other claims, in order to expedite issuance of a patent on the allowable subject matter, the Application has:

- amended claims 25 and 26 and to include all of the features of allowable dependent claims 32 and 73, respectively, and canceled claims 32 and 73. Conforming amendments have been made to dependent claims 31 and 72;
- recast claim 33 as an independent claim including all of the features of independent claim 25, from which claim 33 previously depended;
- recast claim 74 as an independent claim including all of the features of independent claim 26, from which claim 74 previously depended; and
- canceled claims 1-16 and 65.

The Applicant thus respectfully submits that claims 25, 26, 33, and 74 are in a condition for allowance. All of the other claims pending in the application directly or indirectly depend from these claims, and thus are also allowable.

Claim rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103

Claims 1, 2, and 4-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent 6,526,318 to Ansarinia. Claims 25-31, 34-39, 43, 45, 48, 65-72, and 75-80 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable

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over Ansarinia. Claims 3, 40, and 44 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ansarinia in view of US Patent Application Publication 2002/0077687 to Ahn. Claims 41, 42, 46, and 47 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Ansarinia in view of US Patent Application Publication 2004/0138097 to Guyuron. As mentioned above, while not necessarily agreeing with these rejections, the Applicant has canceled or amended the claims to recite the subject matter found allowable by the Examiner.

New claims

Claims 81-100 are new. These claims are parallel to claims 27-31, 36-39, 66-72, and 77-80, respectively, as originally filed or as previously presented.

The Applicant believes the amendments and remarks presented hereinabove to be fully responsive to all of the grounds of rejection and objection raised by the Examiner. In view of these amendments and remarks, the Applicant respectfully submits that all of the claims in the present application are now in condition for allowance. Notice to this effect is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

RatnerPrestic

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Actorney for Applicants

JLE/kpc

Dated: September 8, 2008

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The Director is hereby authorized to charge or credit Deposit Account No. **18-0350** for any additional fees, or any underpayment or credit for overpayment in connection herewith.

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being electronically transmitted to: Commissioner for Patents,

Alexandria, VA on September 8, 2008.

Kathleen P. Carney